



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
REGIONAL PARK AND
OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**

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ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

November 01, 2016

The Honorable Board of Directors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

2-P November 1, 2016

LORI GLASGOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Directors:

**APPROVE A REVISED PLAN FOR EXPENDITURE OF UNSPENT FUNDS
OF THE SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS PROPOSITIONS OF 1992
FOR THE CALIFORNIA SCIENCE CENTER FOUNDATION FOR
THE CALIFORNIA SCIENCE CENTER GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
AND ALLOCATE CITIES EXCESS FUNDS
AVAILABLE TO THE SECOND SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT
TO THE LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY GARDEN COUNCIL FOR
THE VERMONT SQUARE COMMUNITY GARDEN
GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 2) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will reallocate an amount not to exceed \$229,000 in Specified Funds under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1992 to the California Science Center Foundation for general improvements to the California Science Center in Exposition Park, and allocate an amount not to exceed \$20,000 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the Second Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, for the Vermont Square Community Garden General Improvements Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Certify that the Board, as a responsible agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, has independently considered and reached its own conclusions regarding the environmental effects of the California Science Center General Improvements Project and the Final Environmental Impact Report and Mitigation Monitoring Program adopted by the California Science Center Board of Directors, as lead agency; determine that the documents adequately address the environmental

impacts of the California Science Center General Improvements Project; find that the Board has complied with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act with respect to the process for a responsible agency and adopt by reference the California Science Center's Final Environmental Impact Report and Mitigation Monitoring Program.

2. Find the proposed Vermont Square Community Garden General Improvements Project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the records of the project.

3. Approve a Revised Plan of Expenditure for the California Science Center Foundation to fund the California Science Center General Improvements Project by reallocating an amount not to exceed \$229,000 in Specified Funds originally allocated to the California Science Center under Section (8), Subsection (d) pursuant the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1992.

4. Allocate an amount not to exceed \$20,000 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the Second Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the Los Angeles Community Garden Council for the Vermont Square Community Garden General Improvements Project.

5. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award grants to the identified recipients and in the amounts listed when applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grants as of the date of award and pursuant to guidelines in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise, funds shall remain in the appropriate account.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allow California Science Center Foundation (CSCF) to utilize unspent Specified Funds of the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1992 (1992 Proposition) by approving a Revised Plan for Expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$229,000 in Specified Funds under Section 8(d) to fund the California Science Center General Improvements Project (Science Center Project).

The proposed Science Center Project involves general improvements to the California Science Center campus in Exposition Park, including rehabilitation of the entrance pathway, site preparation, and purchase and installation of new paving materials.

Approval of the recommended actions will also allocate an amount not to exceed \$20,000 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the Second Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), to the Los Angeles Community Garden Council (LACGC) for the Vermont Square Community Garden General Improvements Project (Vermont Square Project).

The proposed Vermont Square Project involves general improvements to the Vermont Square Community Garden, including the design, fabrication, and installation of decorative fencing.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD), be authorized to award the grants when applicable conditions have been met. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the project and requirements of the 1996 Propositions, as well as grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

requirements for the project. It is further recommended that the Director be authorized to administer the grants under procedures previously approved by the Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The proposed recommendations further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) and Community Support and Responsiveness (Goal 2) by providing grant funds to enhance healthy activities in the Second Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grants, in amounts not to exceed \$229,000 and \$20,000, are budgeted in RPOSD's Assessment and Excess Project Funds, HB4 and HD6, respectively.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1992 Proposition provided funding for projects that were specified in the measure and identified a procedure for revision of those projects. That procedure, known as the Revised Plan for Expenditure (Revised Plan), remains the method by which unspent specified project funds may be approved by your Board for other eligible projects. An agency may submit a Revised Plan to utilize unspent funds for a project that is consistent with the purposes of the 1992 Proposition.

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. LACGC meets this requirement.

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining, each fiscal year, the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grant to LACGC will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Second Supervisorial District for Cities Projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director will be authorized to award grants when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

On June 2, 2009, the Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grant as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. CSCF is the lead agency for the Science Center Project. RPOSD is the lead agency for the Vermont Square Project.

The proposed Science Center Project, which includes rehabilitation of the entrance pathway, site

preparation, and purchase and installation of new paving materials, is part of the California Museum of Science and Industry/Exposition Park Master Plan (Master Plan) Project. On September 1, 1993, the California Science Center Board of Directors, in its role as lead agency in matters pertaining to compliance with CEQA, found that the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) reflected the independent judgment of the California Science Center; approved the FEIR; and found that the Master Plan Project will have no adverse effect on fish and wildlife resources. As part of the scope of the FEIR, a Mitigation Reporting Program has been included. This program will be implemented and monitored by CSCF.

With respect to the Board's approval of the Science Center Project described herein, the RPOSD also acts as a responsible agency for the purposes of CEQA. It is, therefore, recommended that the Board independently consider and adopt the FEIR and the Mitigation Reporting Program.

The proposed Vermont Square Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of installation of decorative fencing, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15303 (e) of the State CEQA Guidelines, and Class 3 (b) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project consists of the construction of small new facilities or structures. The Vermont Square Project will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, and scenic trees. Additionally, the proposed project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed project's records.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

A Project Agreement will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable conditions of the grant have been met. The Project Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by RPOSD. The recommended projects will promote healthy activities in public spaces in the Second Supervisorial District.

CONCLUSION

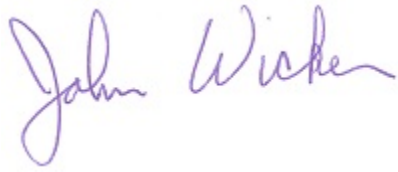
Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one adopted copy of this action to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Programs Division, and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Honorable Board of Directors

11/1/2016

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "John Wicker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JOHN WICKER

Director

JW:JB:WRO:tb

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors